(घ) उन मकानों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिनका निर्माण कार्य अब तक पूरा नहीं किया जा सका है जबकि इन के लिए निर्माण योजना 10 वर्ष पहले बनाई गई थी ; और

(ङ) उक्त कर्मचारियों के लिए मकानों के निर्माण के लिए सरकार द्वारा अपने स्तर पर क्या प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पी. वी. रंगैया नायडू) : (क) से (ग) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Providing amenities to the Postmen

4197. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even though there is an immense growth of houses and offices in various areas in the city, the mileage allotted to each postman for delivery of dak and the beat continues to be the same since 1962;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with the enormous increase in the number of letters, parcels and articles sent by post, the postmen have often to carry heavy loads and he is not provided with cycle allowance if the route is less than 10 kms;

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to revamp the system for efficient and quick delivery of mail besides providing suitable amenities to the postmen;

(d) whether Government have made any assessment of the working system and requirements in post offices in the metropolitan cities in the country; and

(e) if so, whether any strategy has been formulated to remove the deficiencies to provide efficient postal services?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) It is not correct that the mileage covered by each postman for delivery of dak continues to be the same since 1962. The quantum of delivery of dak and fixation of beats of postmen is now worked out on the basis of revised norms issued in the year, 1975 and as amended from time to time.

(b) No Sir. Postmen are entitled to cycle allowance of Rs. 20 P.M. if the distance covered is more than 16 k.m. per day. In case the weight of articles carried by a beat postman exceeds 10 kg., then coolie charges are also admissible at the prescribed rates.

(c) to (e) Due to economy orders, the posts are being sanctioned only in hard cases. In the year 1990, 151 posts of sorting postmen and 2359 posts of postmen were sanctioned as a result of a special review. Subsequently, some more posts were also sanctioned in a few select offices.

Interception of Telephone Messages

4198. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 4236 given in the Rajya Sabha on 18th August, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the requisition orders for interception of telephones preserved by the Department of Telecommunications contain the telephone number of Members of Parliament ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the authorised officers have to record in writing the reasons for intercepting the telephone as per section 5 of the Indian Telegraphs Act; and

(c) whether Government propose to direct the Department of Telecommunications not to allow the interception of MPs telephones without prior permission of the Central Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes, Sir.